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## **Minority Business Development Agency Awards \$7.3 Million in Grants to Boost Job Creation**

**Funds will establish MBDA Business Centers in Baltimore, Bridgeport, Conn., Houston,  
New York, San Francisco, St. Louis, and Washington, D.C.**

**WASHINGTON (September 16, 2013)** — The U.S. Department of Commerce’s Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) today announced \$7.3 million in funding to winners of a grant competition designed to boost job creation and the global competitiveness of minority-owned businesses nationwide. The grant recipients will establish MBDA Business Centers in Baltimore, Bridgeport, Conn., Houston, New York, San Francisco, St. Louis, and Washington, DC, joining a network of 40 MBDA Business Centers across the United States and Puerto Rico.

“MBDA is committed to the continued success of all minority-owned firms, who strengthen the economy and create American jobs,” said David A. Hinson, MBDA National Director. “These new centers will expand the number of front-line business experts we have providing resources to minority-owned businesses to help grow economies in more cities across the U.S.”

The recipients of the \$7.3 million in grants include the following organizations:

- The City of Baltimore (\$900,000) to operate the MBDA Business Center in Baltimore
- Houston Community College (\$900,000) to operate the MBDA Business Center in Houston
- South Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation (\$1.5 million) to operate the MBDA Business Center in New York City
- ASIAN Inc. (\$1.2 million) to operate the MBDA Business Center in San Francisco
- Chicago Minority Supplier Development Council (\$900,000) to operate the MBDA Business Center in St. Louis
- Performance-Based Solutions (\$900,000) to operate the MBDA Business Center in Washington, D.C.
- Greater New England Minority Supplier Development Council (\$1,020,000) to operate the MBDA Business Center in Bridgeport, Conn., which will focus on the American Indian and Alaskan Native business community

The organizations will receive federal funds over a three-year period, except for the Greater New England Minority Supplier Development Council, which will receive funds over a four-year period. The funds became effective September 1, 2013. MBDA will make additional announcements regarding site selections and when the new centers will open once details are available.

***About the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA)***

MBDA, [www.mbda.gov](http://www.mbda.gov), is the only Federal agency dedicated to the growth and global competitiveness of U.S. minority-owned businesses. Our programs and services better equip minority-owned firms to create jobs, build scale and capacity, increase revenues and expand regionally, nationally and internationally. Services are provided through a network of MBDA Business Centers.

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